THE

Theatrical Observer;

AND

Daily Bills of the Play.

" Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice."—*Othello.*

No. 5921. *Saturday, Dec.* 12, 1840. *Price* 1*d.*

" The Play's the thing."—Ask for *Thomas's Observer.*

COVENT GARDEN THEATRE.

LAST night *The Merry Wives of Windsor* was played here as a change, and was received with its usual honors. *The Critic* was the afterpiece.

HAY-MARKET THEATRE.

ANOTHER elegant and crowded audience assembled at this house yesterday evening to witness *Money!* *Bob Short* followed the Comedy, and Lunn's Farce of *Fish Out of Water* terminated the evening.

VICTORIA.—The long promised Tragedy of *Spartacus; or, the Roman Gladiator*, was produced here on Wednesday evening, and received the most perfect approval of an overflowing house. The author has most judiciously availed himself of every opportunity for introducing stage effect, and of this latter quality there is an ample allowance to satisfy the ardent admirers of cut and thurst, who so plentifully abound in the neighbourhood of Lambeth. Taken as a whole, the piece is admirably written, and will by no means detract from the literary reputation of the members of the English bar, one of whose body is the author of *Spartacus.* The plot of the Tragedy has already been laid before the greater part of our readers, we may therefore merely observe that the principal characters are well acted by Hicks, Dale, Harding, and Emmeline Montague. The new Spectacle of *The Wars in Syria* continues to be triumphantly received.

BATH THEATRE.—Mrs. Waylett has been very attractive at this house. Respecting this popular singer *The Bath Herald* adduces the following :—" There is a class of playful characters in the Drama in the personation of which we are bold to assert Mrs. Waylett never had a superior. She is one of those witches, who by the mere spell or force of *natural* magic, would work upon the fancy more than the most regular " set-beauty," that ever walk the boards. She is one whose simplicity and roguish coquetry are as great triumphs of the dramatic art, as the little peasant boys of Murillo are of the pictorial. She is one of Byron's " provoking, laughing sluts," that, in her portraits of character gives nature as she finds her, exact in every lineament, whether it be the elegant romp, or the coquette. Her stage works in *West Country Wooing*, and in *The Belle's Stratagem*, is very dissimilar, but it would puzzle us to say whether we preferred her transcript of *Eliza Fielding*, or *Letitia Hardy*. Each was bewitching in its way. We disclaim all intention of praising her to this extent because of her Bath birth or parentage; it is a genuine tribute to real merit, apart from all favor or prejudice.

Thus for her acting. Her vocal accomplishments in the ballad

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style are allowed to be matchless either in sweetness, tasteful embellishment, or, distinctness of enunciation, (a primary point in all her songs, but especially in ballads where the beauty depends upon the expression of the *concetto*, whether waggish or sentimental.) She has been nightly complimented by rapturous demands for *encores*, and her "Nora Creina" on Wednesday, was very near having a duplicate repetition, but the audience, from considerate feeling, would not press it. She has been accompanied on the piano-forte by the celebrated composer, Mr. A. Lee."

Two dramatic authors, a few nights ago, had high words at a certain Theatrical Club, when one of them vainly boasted that he wrote to obtain immortality. "Yes," said his opponent, "and I write *for the pot*, and leave you and immortality to shift for yourselves."

Fashionable Lounges.

To the Editor of The Theatrical Observer.

DEAR MR. EDITOR.—Just wish to say a word—beg pardon, but will you excuse me—I have to mention that I've arranged so as to rub shoulders with my friends and the fashionable world at one or other of the *Grand Lounges* about town :—

Monday, stroll to Madame TUSSAUD's elegant Exhibition, Golden Corinthian Saloon, Baker Street, Portman Square.—Just added to her unrivalled collection the full length figure of that wonderful violinist Paganini ; also splendid figures of Her Majesty the Queen, Prince Albert in his military costume, the group of John Knox reproving Mary Queen of Scots, consisting of Mary, Elizabeth, Henry VIII, Luther, Calvin, and Knox, in magnificent costumes.

On Tuesday, visit the DIORAMA. Regent's Park, to see the new and splendid view, *The Shrine of the Nativity at Bethlehem*, painted by M. Renoux, from a sketch made on the spot by David Roberts, Esq., A R.A. and the view of *The Coronation of Queen Victoria* in Westminster Abbey, by M. Bouton. This delightful Exhibition is open every day from ten till half-past four.

Indian Gala, or Pow-wow, in Catlin's North-American Indian Museum, Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly, (opposite the Burlington Arcade) On Thursday Evening at Eight o'clock. Twenty full and splended costumes displayed on living figures, completely equipped and armed, and all explained in a Lecture by Mr. Catlin. Several spirited and picturesque dances will also be given.—A very entertaining Exhibition.—Ad. 1s. The rooms are open day and evening.

Wednesday, pay a visit to the Somerset Gallery, 151, Strand, next door to Somerset House, to see a most wonderful exhibition, *The Industrious Fleas*. They dance, ride, drive a four-in-hand, fight, and in fact do everything in first rate style, exciting the admiration of all present. By the-bye, this is Signor Bertolotto's exhibition, that he has been exhibiting for the last eight years.

In my way from the Theatre, drop into the *Harmonic Meeting*, held at EVANS's Grand Hotel, King Street, Covent Garden,—quite delighted with the excellence of the singing, commences every evening at ten o'clock. When Mrs. P. is out of town, stay a week, and only pay a guinea for bed and breakfast. I'm always to be found on Saturday, at half-past five, at the Convivial Dinner held here.

"Why is one of Perring's Beavers like the Queen's first head dress ?"—"Because it is *a Crown* that sits lightly on the head of the wearer—one that will last through tumult and tempest, and though it may *reign* for ever, can never be injured.—Try Perring's Hats not to be equalled for cheapness, lightness, and durability, at 21s. each.—85, Strand.

"All good *spirits* come to my *Beck*," at his Dr. Johnson's Tavern, Bolt Court, Fleet Street—where you meet excellent company—capital fare at *fair* prices—delightful singing—(commences every evening at a quarter to nine,) cigars, billiards, good beds, and an enticing bill of fare.

Mrs. P. asked me yesterday, "Why is E. C. Pitman's Boot and Shoe *depot*, in New Street, Covent Garden, like Madame's Green Room crowded with females ?" "Because its full of *desirable soles !*"—Went there instantly, quite surprised at the excellent and cheap assortment of new Albert and French Patent Dress Boots—quite a curiosity—must be a customer.

On Saturday, I examine *Miss Linwood's* curious Needle Work, Leicester Square—just added other beautiful specimens of her art.—But I intrude—beg pardon—Your's. &c.—PAUL PRY.

Theatre Royal, Covent Garden.

This Evening, Shakspere's

MIDSUMMER Night's Dream.

Theseus, Duke of Athens, Mr COOPER,
Egeus....(Father to Hermia) .... Mr DIDDEAR,
Lysander, (in love with) Mr J. VINING,
Demetrius, (Hermia,) Mr BRINDAL,
Philostrate (Master of the Revels) Mr HEMMING,
Quince (the Carpenter) Mr BARTLEY,
Bottom ..... (the Weaver) ..... Mr HARLEY,
Flute (the Bellows Mender,) Mr KEELEY,
Snout (the Tinker) Mr MEADOWS,
Snug.....(the Joiner).....Mr F. MATTHEWS,
Starveling (the Tailor) Mr W. H. PAYNE,
Hippolyta (Queen of the Amazons) Mrs BROUGHAM
Hermia (in love with Lysander) Mrs NISBETT,
Helena (in love with Demetrius) Miss COOPER.

FAIRIES.

Oberon (King of the Fairies) Madame VESTRIS,
Titania (Queen of the Fairies) Mrs W. LACY,
Puck, or Robin Goodfellow (a Fairy) Miss MARSHALL,
First Fairy, Miss RAINFORTH,
Second Fairy, ... Miss GRANT,
3rd Fairy, Miss LEE, 4th Fairy, Miss A. TAYLOR,
Sylphs, Mr GILBERT and Miss BALLIN,

Characters in the Interlude performed by the CLOWNS:

After which, (3rd Time) a New Farce, called

Brother Ben.

Commodore Cutlas, Mr BARTLEY,
Benjamin Bowles ..... Mr C. MATHEWS,
Mr Snuffleton, Mr HARLEY,
Mrs Cutlas, ... Mrs BROUGHAM,
Mrs Benjamin Bowles, Miss LEE,
Dorothy ..... Mrs C. JONES.

To conclude with, **A COMIC SCENE**
Between Mr C. MATHEWS and Mr KEELEY,
ENTITLED

Two in the Morning.

On Monday, A Midsummer Night's Dream, a New Farce, called Brother Ben, and Two in the Morning.

Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

This Evening, a Musical Entertainment, entitled The

Concerts d'Hiver.

Conductor, Mons. MUSARD,

(Last Week but One of his Present Engagement.)

PROGRAMME.

PART I.

Overture .. Fidelio, .. Beethoven
Valses Les Fusees Volantes .... Strauss
Overture .... Guillaume Tell .... Rossini
LaFille duRegiment..1stQuadrille(6thTime)Musard
Solo, Flageolet, Mons. Collinet. Solo, Clarinett, Mr Lazarus. Solo, Cornet aPistons, HerrKoenig. Solo, Oboe, Mons.Barret. Solo, Trombone, Mons. Dantonet Solo, Ophicleide, Mons. Prospere.
Solo .. Flute .. Herr FRISCH, ... Frisch
Romance from the Opera, GUIDO ET GINEVRA
Solo, Cornet a Pistons, Herr KOENIG. Halevy
LOCKE'S Celebrated Music to **MACBETH.**

PART II.

GRAND SCENE SATANIQUE, selected from 'Robert le Diable,' .... Meyerbeer
I.— Evocation of Satan. II.—The Dead rise from their Tombs, covered with their Shrouds. III.—Valse of the Infernals.
Arranged by MUSARD.
Rendezvous de Chasse, NewQuadrille, .. Musard
Solo, Cornet a Pistons, Herr KOENIG, Solo, Trumpet. Herr MULLER. Solo, Trombone, Mons. DANTONET. Solo, Ophicleide, Mons. PROSPERE.
Concerto..Ophicleide..Mons. PROSPERE.
Aurora .. Valses .. .. Labitzky
Serenades .. Espagnoles.
L'Angleterre .. New Quadrille, M.S. .. Musard
La Belle Anglaise, Galop, ... Eliason

*** *T. BOOSEY & Co., 28, Holles Street, Music Sellers, publish the whole of Messrs. Strauss, Lanner, Labitzky, and Musard's Music.*

PRICES OF ADMISSION.

To the Promenade 1s. Dress Circle 2s.6d. Upper Boxes, 1s.6d. Gallery 1s.

Doors Open at Half-past Seven o'Clock, to commence at Eight precisely.

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